#### Gabby Rivera *Juliet Takes a Breath*

Juliet Milagros Palante is a self-proclaimed closeted Puerto Rican baby dyke from the Bronx. Only, she's not so closeted anymore. In a summer bursting with queer brown dance parties, a sexy fling with a motorcycling librarian, and intense explorations of race and identity, Juliet learns what it means to come out-to the world, to her family, to herself.

### Erika L. Sánchez I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter

Perfect Mexican daughters do not go away to college. And they do not move out of their parents' house after high school graduation. Perfect Mexican daughters never abandon their family. But Julia is not your perfect Mexican daughter. That was Olga's role. Then a tragic accident on the busiest street in Chicago leaves Olga dead and Julia left behind to reassemble the shattered pieces of her family. And no one seems to acknowledge that Julia is broken, too. It's not long before Julia discovers that Olga might not have been as perfect as everyone thought.

## Jenny Torres Sanchez We Are Not from Here

Pulga has his dreams. Chico has his grief. Pequeña has her pride. Crossing from Guatemala through Mexico, they follow the route of La Bestia, the perilous train system that might deliver them to a better life-if they are lucky enough to survive the journey. With nothing but the bags on their backs and desperation drumming through their hearts, Pulga, Chico, and Pequeña know there is no turning back, despite the unknown that awaits them.

## MORE AUTHORS TO DISCOVER AT MOUNT VERNON CITY LIBRARY:

**Daniel Alarcon** 

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# CELEBRATE LATINX AUTHORS

EXPLORE THE DIVERSE VOICES OF LATINX AND HISPANIC AUTHORS. CREATORS AND TRAILBLAZERS. THESE STORIES ARE REDEFINING IDENTITY AND SHAPING TODAY'S CUITURE

#### ADULT FICTION:

#### Isabel Allende House of Spirits

A symbolic family saga and the story of an unnamed Latin American country's turbulent history; a spirit-ridden world filled with colorful and all-too-human inhabitants. The Trueba family's passions, struggles, and secrets span three generations and a century of violent change.

#### A Long Petal of the Sea

This epic novel spanning decades and crossing continents follows two young people as they flee the aftermath of the Spanish Civil War in search of a place to call home.

## Ingrid Rojas Contreras Fruit of the Drunken Tree

Seven-year-old Chula lives a carefree life in her gated community in Bogotá, but the threat of kidnappings, car bombs, and assassinations hover just outside her walls, where the godlike drug lord Pablo Escobar reigns, capturing the attention of the nation. When her mother hires Petrona, a live-in-maid from the city's guerrilla-occupied slum, Chula makes it her mission to understand Petrona's mysterious ways.

## Mariana Enriquez Things We Lost in the Fire

In these wildly imaginative, devilishly daring tales of the macabre, contemporary Argentina is brought to vibrant life as a place where shocking inequality, violence, and corruption are the law of the land, while military dictatorship and legions of desaparecidos loom large in the collective memory. These stories, reminiscent of Shirley Jackson and Julio Cortázar, are a powerful exploration of what happens when our darkest desires are left to roam unchecked, and signals the arrival of an astonishing and necessary voice in contemporary fiction.

## Gabriela Garcia Of Women and Salt

From 19th-century cigar factories to present-day detention centers, from Cuba to Mexico, Gabriela Garcia's Of Women and Salt is a kaleidoscopic portrait of betrayals—personal and political, self-inflicted and those done by others—that have shaped the lives of these extraordinary women. A haunting meditation on the choices of mothers, the legacy of the memories they carry, and the tenacity of women who choose to tell their stories despite those who wish to silence them, this is more than a diaspora story; it is a story of America's most tangled, honest, human roots.

#### Silvia Moreno-Garcia *Mexican Gothic*

Step into an isolated mansion in 1950s Mexico with Noemí who arrives to save her cousin after receiving a frantic letter. This brave and glamorous socialite-turned-detective takes us on her journey to uncover the treacherous secrets that live between the walls, without knowing exactly who to trust.

#### **Velvet Was the Night**

1970s, Mexico City. While student protests and political unrest consume the city, Maite escapes into stories of passion and danger. Her next-door neighbor, Leonora, a beautiful art student, seems to live a life of intrigue and romance that Maite envies. When Leonora disappears under suspicious circumstances, Maite finds herself searching for the missing woman—and journeying deeper into Leonora's secret life of student radicals and dissidents. Velvet Was the Night is an edgy, simmering historical novel for lovers of smoky noirs and anti-heroes.

#### Luis Alberto Urrea The House of Broken Angels

Urrea describes this as, "the story of an American family—one that happens to speak Spanish and admire the Virgin of Guadalupe. Imperfect and glorious, messy and hilarious, sometimes heroic." Inspired by the death of his brother, Urrea's novel mines his own family history to tell a once-in-a-lifetime tale, simultaneously intimate in its detail and grand in its scope.



#### YOUNG ADULT FICTION:

#### Elizabeth Acevedo Poet X

A young girl in Harlem discovers slam poetry as a way to understand her mother's religion and her own relationship to the world. National Book Award winning debut.

## Sandra Cisneros The House on Mango Street

The House on Mango Street is the remarkable story of Esperanza Cordero, a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago, inventing for herself who and what she will become. Told in a series of vignettes-sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes deeply joyous-Sandra Cisneros' masterpiece is a classic story of childhood and self-discovery. Few other books in our time have touched so many readers.